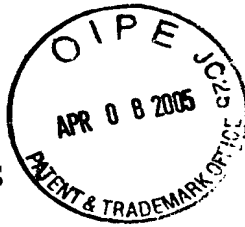


DOCKET NO: 245681US



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
TSUTOMU AOYAMA : EXAMINER:
SERIAL NO: 10/715,351 :
FILED: NOVEMBER 19, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2651

FOR: MAGNETIC RECORDING :
MEDIUM AND MAGNETIC :
RECORDING-REPRODUCTION SYSTEM :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend this application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 3 of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.